Hadley Colman

EDC 102

My Experiences Compared to Those in *Savage Inequalities*

9/28/15

When I was in school, high school especially, I was fortunate because I did not face obstacles that would lead me not to graduate, to drop out of school, etc. One of the passages that stood out to me in Chapter 2 of *Savage Inequalities* involved the projection of young children many years down the line. The passage projects where the young children will be during/after high school, “Twelve years from now, by junior year of high school, if the neighborhood statistics hold true for these children, 14 of these 23 boys and girls will have dropped out of school. Fourteen years from now, four of these kids, at most, will go to college. Eighteen years from now, one of those four may graduate from college, but three of the 12 boys in this kindergarten will already have spent time in prison” (p. 45). It was interesting to read this but also sad because the odds were already against the children before they had even left elementary school. This is very different from the community where I went to school.

Another passage that reminded me of how my experiences are very different from the children in *Savage Inequalities* involved the lack of materials for the students. The book mentions that an elementary school had no basketball hoops on the basketball court and no swings on the playground for the children to use. It also mentions that the school had also not had a library for the past 21 years (p. 53). I can’t even imagine what that must have been like for the elementary school children because playing outside and reading books was the majority of my childhood inside and outside of school.